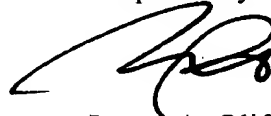


For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that the independent claims are patentable over the applied references. The dependent claims are likewise patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed as well as for the additional features they recite. Consequently, all the claims are in condition for allowance. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Gerhard W. Thielman
Registration No. 43,186

JAO:GWT/gwt

Attachment:

Copy of stamped receipt for Claim for Priority

Date: September 3, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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The following papers have been filed:

CFP, cert copy JP 2000-119687 (4/20/00), IDS pto 1449 appendix and 3 refs

Name of Applicant: Susumu HONMA et al.

Serial No.: 09/836,386

Atty. File No.: 109296

Title (New Cases):

Sender's Initials: JAO/zmc

5/19



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This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following application as filed with this Office

出 願 年 月 日
Date of Application:

2000年 4月20日

出 願 番 号
Application Number:

特願2000-119687

出 願 人
Applicant(s):

富士ゼロックス株式会社

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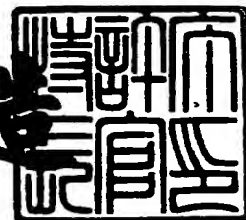
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2001年 5月25日

特 許 庁 長 官
Commissioner,
Japan Patent Office

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出証番号 出証特2001-3044946